

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP 03/13012

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C23C18/22 C23C18/54

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C23C H05K C25D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 803 131 A (NAKAGAWA MASAYUKI ET AL) 8 September 1998 (1998-09-08) column 1, line 66 -column 2, line 5 column 9, line 10 -column 9, line 44 claims & JP 08 092752 A 9 April 1996 (1996-04-09) cited in the application	1-9
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 013, no. 302 (C-616), 12 July 1989 (1989-07-12) & JP 01 092377 A (NIPPON OZON KK), 11 April 1989 (1989-04-11) cited in the application abstract	1-9



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 May 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/05/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Stock, H

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP 03/13012

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>"POLYIMIDE SURFACE MODIFICATION BY OZONOLYSIS"</p> <p>RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, KENNETH MASON PUBLICATIONS, HAMPSHIRE, GB, no. 339, 1992, page ABSTRN033937 XP001156084</p> <p>ISSN: 0374-4353</p> <p>abstract</p>	1-9
A	<p>US 4 528 245 A (JOBINS JILL M)</p> <p>9 July 1985 (1985-07-09)</p> <p>column 3, line 29 -column 4, line 49</p> <p>column 8, line 55,56</p>	1-9
A	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN</p> <p>vol. 2002, no. 05, 3 May 2002 (2002-05-03)</p> <p>& JP 2002 023367 A (SEIKO EPSON CORP), 23 January 2002 (2002-01-23)</p> <p>abstract</p>	1-9

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 13-15

Present claims 13 to 15 relate to a product/compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or namely a compound isolated by a previously claimed method.

The claims cover all products/compounds having this characteristic, whereas the application provides no support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for such products/compounds. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the product/compound by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, the search has not been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be vague, not supported and not disclosed. (see page 30 line 34 to page 31 line 3).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP 03/13012

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5803131	A	08-09-1998	JP 3031177 B2	10-04-2000
			JP 8092752 A	09-04-1996
			JP 8091063 A	09-04-1996
			JP 8269723 A	15-10-1996
JP 01092377	A	11-04-1989	NONE	
US 4528245	A	09-07-1985	EP 0156106 A2	02-10-1985
			JP 60204884 A	16-10-1985
JP 2002023367	A	23-01-2002	NONE	